



Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

EVALUATION IN THE GEF

EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP

EGYPT
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GEF IEO

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Overview

1. What is Monitoring and Evaluation in the GEF?
2. What does the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) do?
 - Recent evaluation findings on performance, progress towards impact and transformational change
 - Exercise on sustainability
3. Where can I find evaluations?

Monitoring

Is our activity on track?

Monitoring uses systematic collection of data to keep activities on track.

Forms of monitoring:

Monitoring of **environmental conditions and stressors**

Monitoring of **progress toward project/program outcomes**

Monitoring of **project/program performance**

Evaluation

- Are we doing the right thing?
- Are we doing things right and efficiently?
- Are there better ways of doing it?

Evaluation is a **systematic** assessment of an activity (program, strategy, etc.) that assesses *relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability*.

Project/Program-Level Evaluations

Mid-term

Terminal

Portfolio-Level Evaluations

Impact, thematic, performance, country/country cluster, comprehensive

Evaluation in the GEF

Two overarching objectives:

- Promote **accountability** for the achievement of GEF objectives through the assessment of *results, effectiveness, processes, and performance* of the partners involved in GEF activities
- Promote **learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing** on results and lessons learned among the GEF and its partners as a basis for decision making on policies, strategies, program management, programs, and projects; and to improve **knowledge and performance**

The GEF Evaluation Policy

- Defines the concepts, roles, and use of evaluation within the GEF
- Defines the institutional framework and responsibilities
- Indicates the minimum requirements covering
 1. Design of M&E plans
 2. Application of M&E plans
 3. Project/program Terminal Evaluations
 4. Engagement of Operational Focal Points in M&E

The GEF Evaluation Policy

Main updates to the Evaluation Policy includes

- Gender-responsive approach
- Evaluations of Programs
- Jointly implemented projects
- Collection of data on socio-economic co-benefits and geospatial coordinates when possible

THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE OF THE GEF



GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)

Mission:

Enhance global environmental benefits through excellence in evaluation

The IEO plays a central role in ensuring the independent evaluation function within the GEF

Brief history:

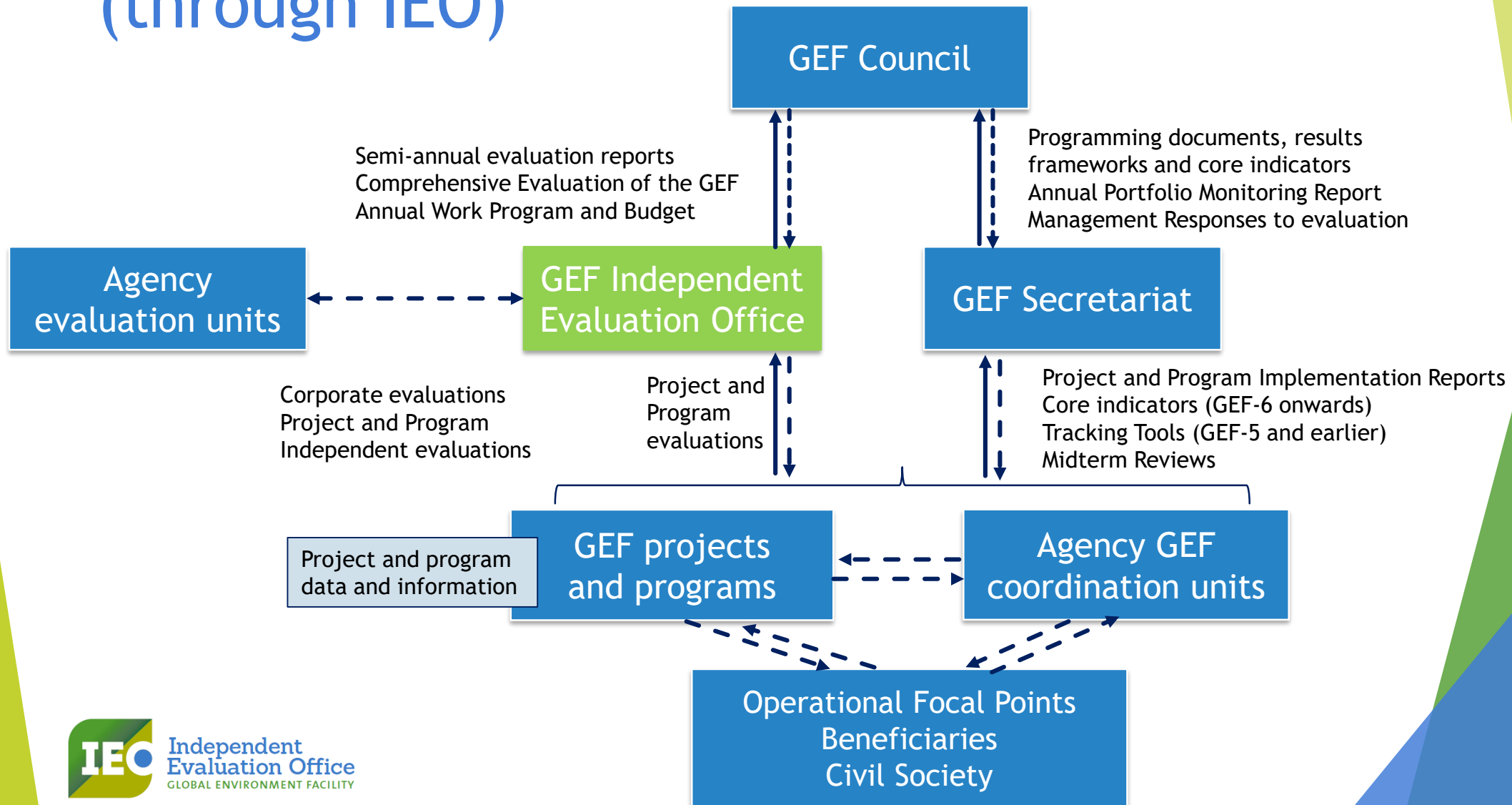
1996 – Initially established as an M&E unit within the GEF Secretariat

2003 – The M&E unit was made autonomous of the GEF Secretariat

2005 – The unit was renamed as GEF Evaluation Office

2013 – The office was renamed as GEF Independent Evaluation Office

Separate reporting line for evaluation (through IEO)



Underpinning IEO Work: Terminal Evaluation

GEF Evaluation Policy: Minimum Requirement 3

- Terminal Evaluations mandatory since 1995
- Required for full-size and medium-size projects

Terminal Evaluation mainly assess:

- Results: outputs, outcomes, sustainability and progress to impact
- M&E: M&E design, M&E implementation
- Implementation and Execution: quality of Implementation, quality of execution

Terminal Evaluation Guidelines:

Available at

<https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/guidelines-gef-agencies-conducting-terminal-evaluation-full-sized-projects>

Terminal Evaluations can be accessed at:

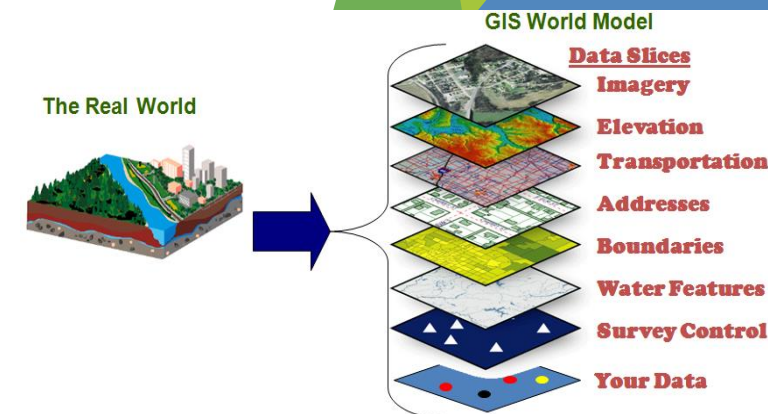
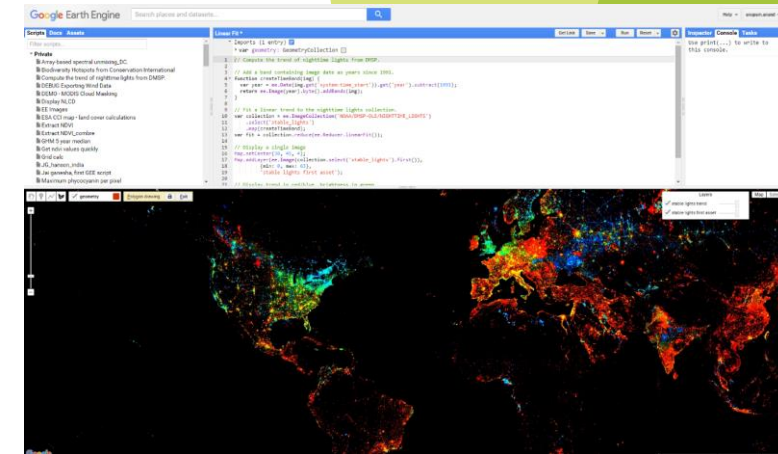
<https://www.thegef.org/projects>

Evaluations undertaken by IEO

- Impact, thematic, performance, country/country cluster, formative, process
- Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF every 4 years

Methods

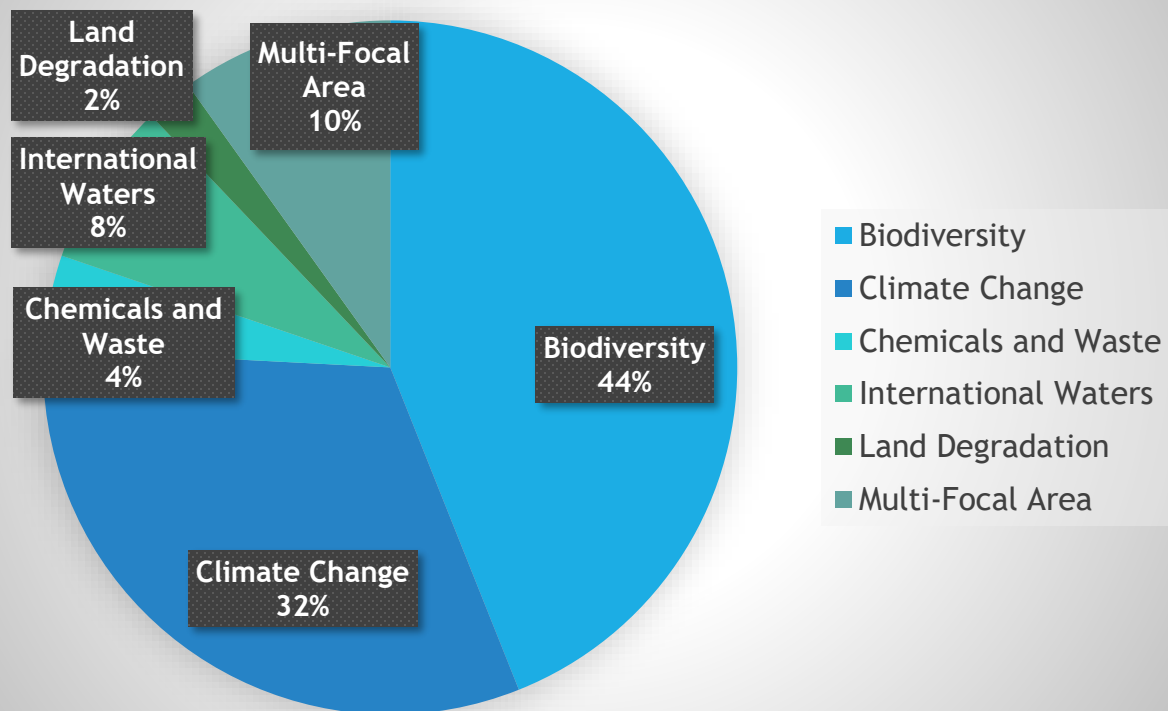
- Qualitative through portfolio reviews, case studies
- Quantitative including GIS, Remote Sensing, Big Data Analytics



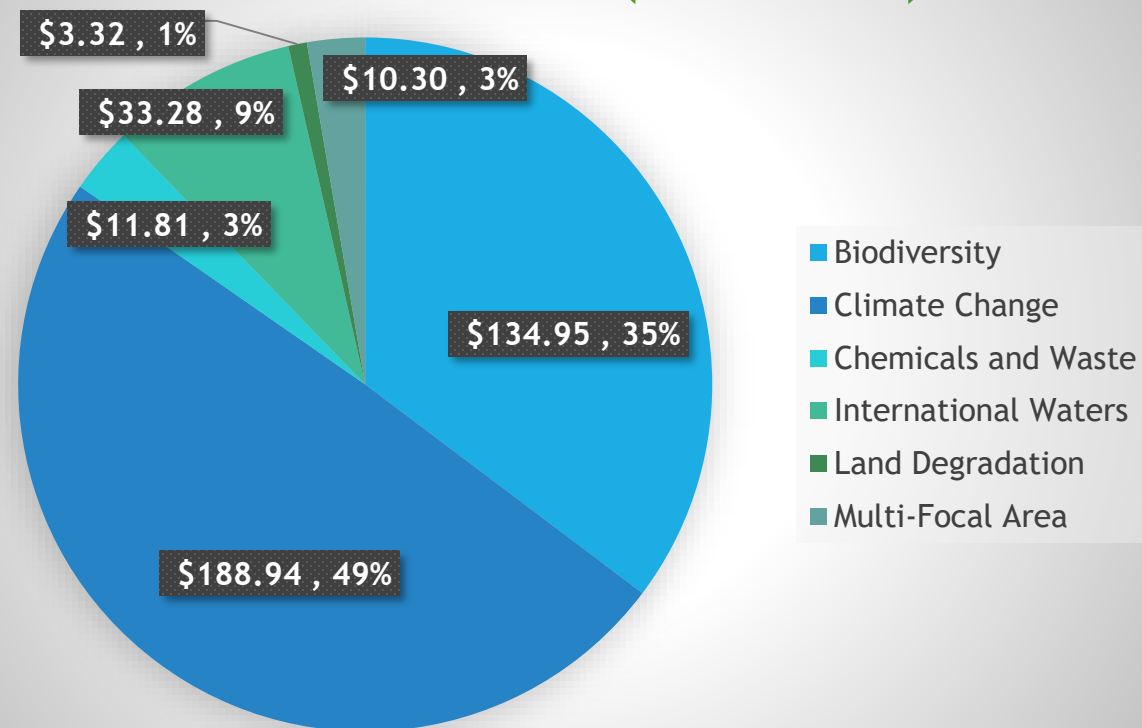
RECENT EVALUATION FINDINGS

MENA portfolio - by thematic area

of projects



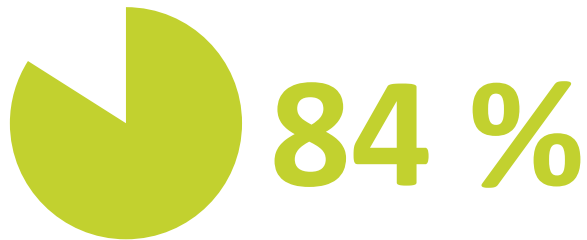
GEF Grant Total (\$ millions)



Performance in the Constituency

91 national projects from the region in the GEF IEO dataset

34 regional projects where >50% of project countries are in the Constituency



achieved **satisfactory outcome** ratings

Drivers of good performance:

- Quality of design
- Quality of implementation and execution
- Materialization of Co-financing

Examples:

- Alexandria Coastal Zone Management Project (ACZM; Egypt)
- Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Managing Healthcare Waste and PCBs (Tunisia)

Example project - outcomes

Alexandria Coastal Zone Management Project - Egypt



- Engagement of private sector actors
- 27 private sector actors adopted PCB management plans
- Could lead to market-level change

Example project - outcomes

Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Managing Healthcare Waste and PCBs - Tunisia



- Strengthened regulator and institutional frameworks for HCW and PCBs
- Improved public-private partnerships for water removal/processing services
- Mid-term review provided good supervision and direction
- Time-bound action plan put project on track to meet objectives

Progress toward Impact and Transformational change



achieved **environmental stress reduction**
(n=40 national projects)



achieved **broader adoption**
(n=40 national projects)

Success factors for transformational change:

- Clear ambition in design
- Addressing market and system reforms through policies
- Mechanisms for financial sustainability
- Quality of implementation and execution

→ May be achieved by projects of different size

Example project - transformational change

Safe Management and Disposal of Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) - Morocco

- Engagement of private sector actors
- 27 private sector actors adopted PCB management plans
- Could lead to market-level change



Example project - transformational change

National Cleantech Platform - Turkey

- Nurtured emerging start-ups to enhance clean energy private sector
- At same time, identified policy roadblocks to clean energy business growth
- Policy change catalyzes technological transformational change



Sustainability at Project Completion

(85 national projects from the region in the GEF IEO dataset)



have outcomes that are **likely**
to be **sustained**

Discussion

Based on your experience, discuss:

- What are the factors that affect sustainability of project outcomes?
 - During project design
 - During project implementation
 - After project completion

Example project - sustainability

Energy Efficiency Codes in Residential Buildings and Improvement in Hospital Buildings - Morocco

- Laid groundwork for Energy Efficiency Law
- Stakeholders note: law is imprinted with project framework



Example project - sustainability

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Silvo-pastoral and Rangeland Landscapes in Pockets of Poverty Project (2012-2017) - Jordan

- Capacity building of local communities and government officials
- Post-project community management of local biodiversity

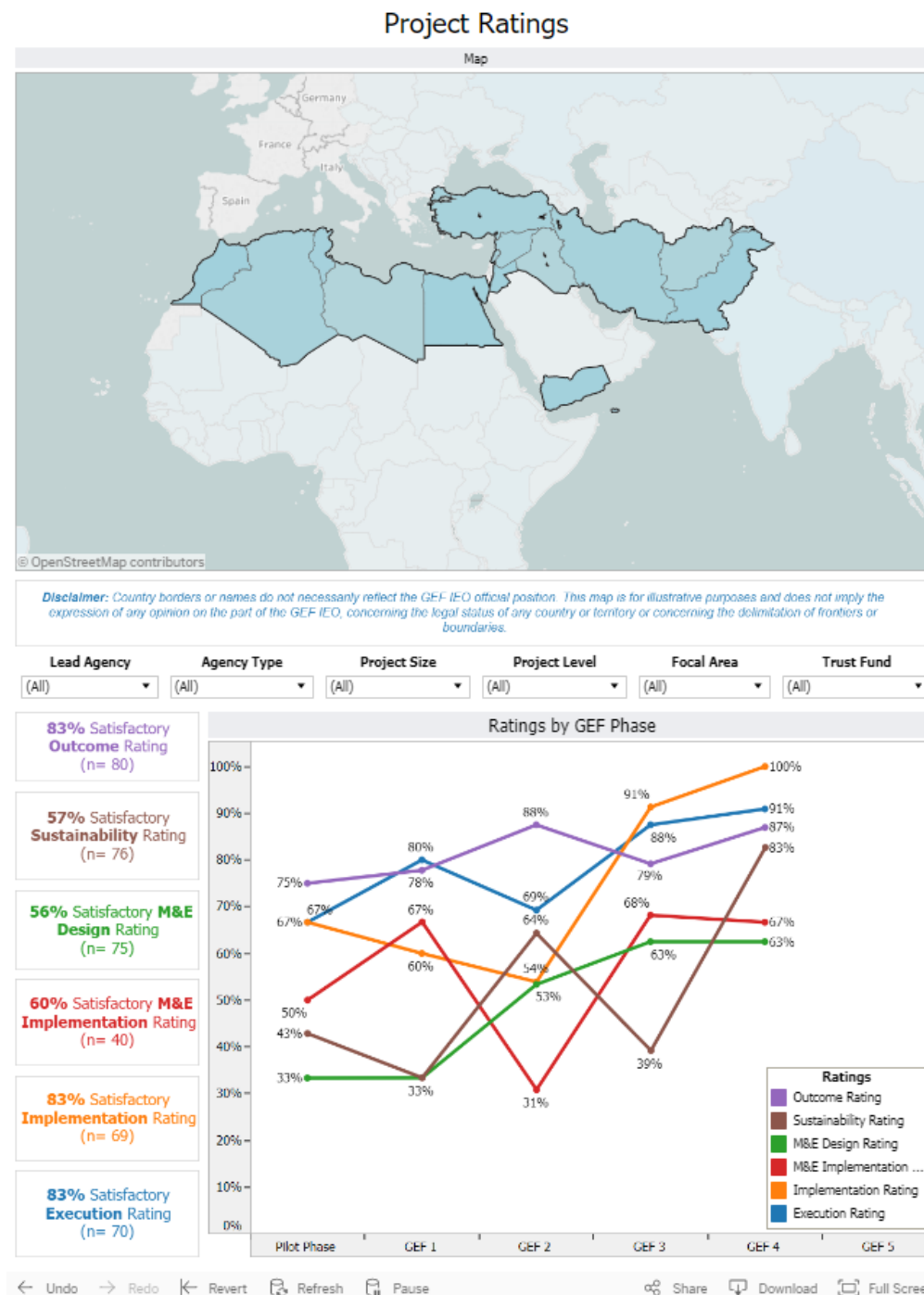


EVALUATIONS ON THE IEO WEBSITE



Data by Country and other resources on the IEO website

<http://www.gefio.org/data-maps>



FOR MORE
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